

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-10 AID-05 PC-01 EB-07 OC-05 CCO-00

A-01 OPR-02 /096 W

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P R 311642Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 464

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 7303

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, NI

SUBJ: NIGERIA COUP: SITREP 6

REF : (A) LAGOS 7260; (B) LAGOS 7254; (C) LAGOS 7252 (ALL NOTAL)

1. LAGOS REMAINS CALM; TRAFFIC BACK TO NORMAL WITH DAILY AFTERNOON
TIE-UP. REPORTS FROM KADUNA AND IBADAN ARE THAT ALL QUIET,
ALTHOUGH KADUNA SAYS TROOPS AT AIRPORT FOR FIRST TIME.

2. NEW REGIME SEEMS IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL COUNTRY. GENERAL
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GOWON'S PLEDGE OF LOYALTY NEW REGIME REPORTED PRESS TODAY.

WE HAVE RECEIVED NO RPT NO REPORTS OPEN OPPOSITION. REACTION
APPOINTMENT MEMBERS NEW GOVERNMENT CAUTIOUS AND SOMEWHAT MIXED.
AMONG YORUBAS THERE ARE SOME WHO DON'T GIVE REGIME MUCH STAYING
POWER, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE MOSTLY USUAL YORUBA WISHFUL THINKING.
AMONG IBOS, TYPICAL COMMENT IS "WE'RE STILL (CONSIDERED) REBELS."
-- A REFERENCE TO FACT THERE DO NOT RPT NOT APPEAR BE ANY IBOS
AMONG NEW APPOINTEES. FROM KADUNA COMES REPORT THAT REACTION THERE
SO FAR GIVES NEW LEADER HIGH MARKS FOR CHOICES OF HIS "SUBORDINATES."

3. PERCENTAGE INDIVIDUALS FROM FORMER NORTHERN REGION
INCLUDING MIDDLE BELT HOLDING TOP POSITIONS APPEARS
TO HAVE INCREASED, ALTHOUGH MANY ARE NON-MUSLIMS.
(DATT PREPARING DETAILED BIO INFO). CERTAINLY NEW GROUP CAN BE
CHARACTERIZED AS MEMBERS SECOND ECHELON NIGERIAN MILITARY WHO
WERE ON FRINGES OF POWER AND AUTHORITY BEFORE COUP. THEY HAVE
SUPPLANTED MORE SENIOR MEMBERS MILITARY WHO HAVE BEEN PUT OUT
TO PASTURE. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF FORMER GOVERNORS AND CHIEFS
OF STAFF NOT KNOWN FOR CERTAIN, BUT WE HAVE NO REASON TO
BELIEVE THEY HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY MISTREATED.

4. IBADAN REPORTS THAT NEW MILITARY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE HAS INFORMED
CONSULAR CORPS THEY "MAY" BE CONVOKED TOMORROW OR NEXT DAY. WE
HAVE AUTHORIZED CONSUL ATTEND IF ASKED, LISTEN AND REPORT.
UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE BY DEPARTMENT, CHARGE WOULD ATTEND
MEETING DIPLOMATIC CORPS HERE IF NEW LEADERSHIP CONVOKED SUCH
GATHERING.
CROSBY

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